(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the growth rate during 1998-99 and 1999-2000; whether it is due to anomalous duty structure; and

(d) the steps taken to boost the growth?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) to (d) The Industrial growth rates during the last three years in respect of the different sectors are as follows:

Sectors	Weight	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1998-99 (Apr.-Feb.)	1999-2000 (Apr.-Feb.)
Overall	1000	12.7	5.6	6.6	4.0	3.8	7.9
Capital Goods	96.9	4.1	9.3	5.3	12.6	11.9	5.4
Consumer Durables	51.2	25.8	4.6	7.8	4.7	3.6	12.9
Cement all kinds	19.8913	6.7	8.2	13.1	5.8	5.2	15.0
Automobiles							
Passenger Cars	3.5795	26.2	20.7	-3.8	2.4	NA	48.5
Motorcycles	3.1970	25.3	22.6	9.8	22.7	NA	36.3
Scooters and Mopeds	4.8986	15.3	6.4	3.3	5.0	NA	6.0

In a dynamic economy, different segments of industry experience differential growth rates with the newer segments growing. Technological change and innovation takes place all the time. New products and / or processes replace the older ones. Some industries also follow a cyclical path and accordingly growth rate changes.

(e) The various measures to boost industrial growth, inter-alia, are deregulation of industry in terms of reduction in the number of Government approvals for setting up of Industry, creating investor friendly environment for the infrastructure sector, introducing competition and rationalisation of tax structure etc.

Projection of Export Growth Rate

5216. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) how the country's export grew in the last three years and what is the projection of growth rate in the coming three years;

(b) what efforts are being made for an accelerated growth rate in exports;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government are setting special economic zones and export zones in various parts of the country;

(d) if so, how the existing export zones will function;

(e) whether Government have classified certain sectors which have export potential; and

(f) if so, how they will be encouraged to attain the required growth rate?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MABRAN): (a) Export growth rates in dollar terms during the last three years are as follows:

Year	Export Growth rate (in%)
1997-98	4.6
1998-99	-5.1
1999-2000	11.6 (Provisional)

Source: DGCI&S. Calcutta.

The targets for exports are fixed by Ministry of Commerce on an annual basis. The Export target growth rate fixed for 1999-2000 was 11.3%. The process of fixing targets for the year 2000-2001 is underway.

(b) Export promotion is a continuous process. A number of steps have been taken to promote exports which include reduction in transaction cost through decentralization and simplification of procedures and various other measures as enumerated in the Exim Policy. Steps have also been taken to promote exports through multilateral and bilateral initiatives identification of thrust sectors and focus regions.

(c) and (d) In the EXIM Policy for 2000-2001, the Government has announced a policy for setting up of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) in the country. SEZs can be set up in the public, private, joint sector or by the State Government. There is no proposal to set up any new SE by the Central Government. However, some of the existing EPZs are proposed to be converted into SEZs. The units in Export Processing Zones will be governed by the provisions given in EXIM Policy.

(e) and (f) Various measures are being taken to promote exports including identification of thrust sector and focus regions which is an ongoing process. The EXIM policy gives the various measures taken to encourage exports.